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the church, the press, the public library and every agency for the creation of public opinion, we appeal for constant and earnest coöperation.

### The Mohonk Arbitration Conference.

The sixteenth Conference on International Arbitration held at Mohonk Lake May 18 to 20 was, in the semi-humorous language with which Albert K. Smiley always closes the conferences, "the best we have ever had." This was more than humorously true this year.

The Conference brought together more than three hundred prominent men and women — statesmen, educators, jurists, business men, clergymen, philanthropists. The speaking was, for the most part, of an unusually high order, earnest and progressive, and the spirit which prevailed loyal and confident. The admirable paper with which President Butler opened the Conference and some of the other excellent addresses we shall publish in full in our July number, as this issue is so fully taken up with accounts of the New England Peace Congress.

This sixteenth Mohonk Conference will always be memorable for one reason. Secretary of State Knox announced there officially for the first time, through Hon. James Brown Scott, that the responses to his identic note of October last to the powers had been so favorable that the International Court of Arbitral Justice is now assured. This announcement was received with the greatest pleasure by the members.

The platform of the Conference was brief, practical and in accord with the best ideas of the day. It was as follows :

#### PLATFORM OF THE SIXTEENTH ANNUAL LAKE MOHONK CONFERENCE ON INTERNATIONAL ARBITRATION.

The sixteenth annual Lake Mohonk Conference on International Arbitration congratulates the people of the United States on the marked progress which the past year has witnessed in the age-long struggle for the substitution of the reign of law for the reign of force in international affairs. It notes with deep satisfaction the significant announcement of the Secretary of State that the proposed constitution of the International Court of Arbitral Justice recommended to the powers in his identic circular note of October 18, 1909, has been received with so much favor as to insure the establishment of such a court in the near future, and it pledges to the President and the Secretary of State the hearty support of the Conference, and invokes the coöperation of men of goodwill everywhere in bringing this beneficent result to pass.

The Conference has further noted with profound interest and satisfaction President Taft's recent declaration in favor of the submission to arbitration of all matters of difference between nations without reservation of questions deemed to affect the national honor, and the Conference expresses the earnest hope that the President and the Senate of the United States will give effect to this wise and far-seeing declaration by entering upon the negotiation of general treaties of arbitration of this character at the earliest practicable moment.

The Conference reaffirms its declaration of last year respecting the portentous growth of the military and naval establishments of the great powers, and calls renewed attention to the fact that the rapid development of the instrumentalities of law and justice for the settlement of international differences furnishes to the statesmanship of the civilized world the long-desired opportunity of limiting by agreement the further increase of armaments. The coming celebration of the one-hundredth anniversary of the arrangement between Great Britain and the United States definitely limiting the naval force on the Great Lakes and the St. Lawrence to four hundred tons and four eighteen-pounders calls renewed attention to the continued menace to the peace of the world caused by the prevailing conditions, and emphasizes the fact, so well expressed by former President Roosevelt in his Christiania address, that, with "sincerity of purpose, the great powers of the world should find no insurmountable difficulty in reaching an agreement which would put an end to the present costly and growing extravagance of expenditure on naval armaments."

### The Annual Meeting.

The experiment of holding the annual meeting of the American Peace Society outside of Massachusetts has proved very successful. The meeting was held at Hartford in connection with the New England Peace Congress on May 11, at 4 P. M., and was well attended.

In the absence of the President, Hon. Robert T. Paine, whose absence because of ill health was deeply regretted by us all, Judge Robert F. Raymond of the Massachusetts Superior Court presided — admirably.

The list of officers, Directors and Vice-Presidents elected for the coming year is found on page 150. The list includes two new Vice-Presidents, Hon. George E. Roberts of Chicago and Dean Henry Wade Rogers of the Yale Law School, and three new members of the Board of Directors, Arthur Deerin Call of Hartford, Dr. Philip S. Moxom of Springfield, and Judge Robert F. Raymond of Newton Centre.

The annual reports of the Directors and of the Treasurer were received, approved and ordered to be printed. The Directors' report appeared in full in the May *ADVOCATE OF PEACE*, and both it and the Treasurer's account may now be had in pamphlet form. The reports show a gratifying increase in the Society's strength and operations, and an encouraging development of the cause of peace throughout the world.

The annual public address before the Society, which was delivered by Hon. John W. Foster, ex-Secretary of State, was an unusually valuable discourse from the historic point of view. He discussed the subject "War Not Inevitable," and his arguments and illustrations from the history of our own country must, it seems to us, convince any fair mind that the contention that war is inevitable is wholly untenable and fallacious. We are glad